

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02
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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1990

USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 2958

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS PRETORIA 4507

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PRG WA SA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: STEYN IN PRETORIA; OTHER NEWS ITEMS

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL STEYN WAS IN PRETORIA YESTERDAY (AUGUST 4) AND HELD LENGTHY DISCUSSIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA "OVER MATTERS REGARDING SWA'S CONSTITUTIONAL FUTURE, THE ARRIVAL OF THE UNSR AND STEYN'S HEANDLING OF THE UN OBSERVER TEAM." STEYN ALSO REPORTEDLY MET WITH THE HEAD OF THE DEFENSE FORCE, GENERAL MALAN, POLICE COMMISSIONER GELDENHUYS AND THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS, STEYN WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HE WOULD BE BACK IN WINDHOEK ON SUDAY TO WELCOME AHTISAARI.

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2. AFTER IS TALKS WITH STEYN, BOTHA LEFT TO ADDRESS A NATIONAL PARTY RALLY AT AUEENSTOWN. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, BOTHA TOLD HIS AUDIENCE THAT NUJOMA COULD ONLY WIN THE ELECTION THROUGH USE OF THE GUN. "IT WAS CLEAR," HE SAID, " THAT NUJOMA WILL TRY TO DELAY THE ELECTIONS AS LONG AS POSSIBLE." BOTHA ALSO REPORTEDLY WARNED THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NOT GO "ONE METER" FURTHER WITH THE UN IF THE

FORTHCOMING REPORT DID NOT COMPLY WITH THE AGREED PROPOSALS.

3. MEANWHILE, SAPA REPORTS THAT THREE TERRORISTS WERE SHOT DEAD BY SECURITY FORCES IN OVAMBO NEAR THE ANGOLAN BORDER. THE SECURITY FORCES REPORTEDLY SUFFERED NO CASUALTIES.

4. IN WINDHOEK, REINHARD RUKORO, INFORMATION SECRETARY OF THE NAMIBIAN NATIONAL FRONT DESCRIBED THE PRESENT VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE AS "NULL AND VOID" AND SAID THE NNF WOULD ASK AHTISAARI TO SCRAP THE PRESENT SYSTEM. RUKORO ALSO BRANDED AS "NONSENSICAL" THE IDEA OF HAVING AN ELECTION IN NAMIBIA BEFORE DECEMBER 31 THIS YEAR. RUKORO REPORTEDLY NOTED THAT HIS PARTY HAD "SERIOUS RESERVATIONS" ABOUT THE IMPARTIALITY AND ABILITY OF AHTISAARI TO CARRY OUT HIS ASSIGNMENT MISSION. RUKORO CHARGED THAT THE COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA OF WHICH AHTISAARI IS COMMISSIONER HAD PROPOUNDED THE CAUSE OF SWAPO TO THE TOTAL EXCLUSION OF OTHER NAMIBIANS. "HOW DO PEOPLE EXPECT THIS GENTLEMAN AND SOME IN HIS GROUP TO CHANGE COLORS OVERNIGHT," HE ASKED. RUKORO SAID THE NNF WOULD MONITOR AHTISAARI'S ACTIVITIES VERY CLOSELY AND WOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION IF HE DEVIATED FROM HIS ORIGINAL TERMS OF REFERENCE. EDMONDSON

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